#### Filed 05/28/2002

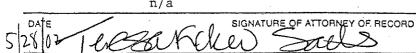
JS 44 (Rev. 07:99)

#### **CIVIL COVER SHEET**

The JS44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket these (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

heet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS OF	THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)		the state of the s							
(a) PLAINTIFFS  Robin Frankenfield, Admx. of the Estate of Michael A. DeAngelis, Deceased  (b) COUNTY OF RESIDENCE OF FIRST LISTED PLAINTIFF Lehigh (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)			DEFENDANTS  State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Comparation  COUNTY OF RESIDENCE OF FIRST LISTED DEFENDANT  (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)  NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED							
							(C) ATTORNEYS (FIRM NA	ME, ADDRESS, AND TELEPHONE NUMBER)		ATTORNEYS (IF KNOWN)
							111 N. Ceda	Orloski, Esquire r Crest Blvd. PA 18104-4602 (610)433-2363	•	Teresa Ficken Sachs (Atty I.D. # 41136) BRITT HANKINS SCHAIBLE & MOUGHAN Two Penn Center Plaza - Suite 515 Philadelphia, PA 19102 (215) 569-6949
II. BASIS OF JUR	ISDICTION (PLACE AN X IN ONE BOX ONLY)		CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (PLACE AN X IN ONE BO (FOR DIVERSHIP AND ONE BOX FOR DEFENDANT							
1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	<ul> <li>3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)</li> </ul>		PTF DEF PTF DE							
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant	A Diversity		Izen of This State							
			Izen or Subject of a □ 3 □ 3 Foreign Nation □ 6 □ 6 □ 6 Foreign Country							
IV. CAUSE OF AC	TION (CITE THE U.S. CIVIL STATUTE UNDER WHICH YOU ARE F	LING AND	UND WRITE A BRIEF STATEMENT OF CAUSE.							
DO NOT CITE JURISDICTIONAL STATU	TES UNLESS DIVERSITY.)									
·.	28 U.S.	c.s	Section 1332 (Diversity of Citizenship)							
V. NATURE OF SL	IT (PLACE AN × IN ONE BOX ONLY)									
CONTRACT	TORTS		FORFEITURE/PENALTY BANKRUPTCY OTHER STATUTES							

V. NATURE OF SU	T (PLACE AN X IN ONE	E BOX ONLY)					
CONTRACT	TOR	······································	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES		
☐ 110 Insurance ☐ 120 Marine ☐ 130 Miller Act ☐ 140 Negotiable Instrument ☐ 150 Recovery of Overpayment	PERSONAL INJURY  ☐ 310 Airplane ☐ 315 Airplane Product ☐ Liability ☐ 320 Assaut, Ubel &	PERSONAL INJURY  362 Personal Injury— Med Malpractics  365 Personal Injury— Product Liability  368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability  PERSONAL PROPERTY	☐ 610 Agriculture ☐ 620 Other Food & Drug ☐ 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 ☐ 630 Liquor Laws	☐ 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 ☐ 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157	☐ 400 State  Reapportionment ☐ 410 Antifrust ☐ 430 Banks and Banking ☐ 450 Commerce/ICC Rates/etc		
& Enforcement of Judgment  151 Medicare Act  152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excl. Veterans)	Slander  330 Federal Employers' Llability  340 Marine 345 Marine Product Llability Llability		368 Asbesios Personal Injury Product Liability	368 Asbestos Personai Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPERTY	368 Asbestos Personal   640 Air a truck   650 Airline Regs   660 Occupational   Salety/Health   690 Other	☐ 650 Airline Regs ☐ 660 Occupational Salety/Health	PROPERTY RIGHTS  B20 Copyrights B30 Patent S40 Trademark
153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits     160 Stockholders' Suits     190 Other Contract     195 Contract Product Liability	350 Motor Vehicle 355 Motor Vehicle 355 Motor Vehicle Usbille Other Personal	371 Truth in Lending 380 Other Personal Property Damage 385 Property Damage Product Liability	☐ 710 Fair Labox Standards Act ☐ 720 Labor/Mgmt, Relations ☐ 730 Labor/Mgmt	SOCIAL SECURITY    861 HIA (13954)   862 Black Lung (923)   863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g))   864 SSID Title XM   865 RSI (405(g))	Exchange  875 Customer Challenge 12 USC 3410  891 Agricultural Acts 892 Economic Stabilization Act		
REAL PROPERTY  210 Land Condemnation 220 Foreclosure 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 240 Torts to Land 245 Torn Product Liability 290 All Other Real Property	CIVIL RIGHTS  441 Voting 442 Employment A43 Housing/ Accommodations 444 Welfare 440 Other Civil Rights	PRISONER PETITIONS    510 Motions to Vacate Sentence Habeas Corpus:   530 General   535 Death Penalty   540 Mandamus & Other   550 Other	Reporting & Disclosure Act  740 Railway Labor Act  790 Other Labor Litigation  791 Empl. Ret. Inc. Security Act	FEDERAL TAX SUITS  870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant)  871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	□ 893 Environmental Matters □ 894 Energy Allocation Act □ 895 Freedom of Information Act □ 900 Appeal of Fee Determination Under Equal Access to Justice □ 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes □ 890 Other Statutory Actions		
VI. ORIGIN  1 Original Structure of the Proceeding	2 Removed from C 3 State Court		V ONE BOX ONLY) Trans 4 Reinstated or				
VII. REQUESTED COMPLAINT:	CHECK IF THIS IS UNDER F.R.C.P. 23	A CLASS ACTION	DEMAND \$ Excess of \$75,00	6 T 1 Phys. 2 - Dec. and 2 d 2	il demanded in complaint: AND: ⊠YES □ NO		
VIII. RELATED CA	ASE(S) (See instructions $n/a$	); ·	(See Complaint)	DOCKET NUMBER_			
DATE	SIGNATU	JRE OF ATTORNEY OF F	RECORD				



## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

of assignment to appropriate calendar.	FORM to be used by counsel to indicate the category of the case for the purpose
Address of Plaintiff: 140-N. 11th Street, Allentown, P	A 18102
Address of Defendant: Once State Farm Plaza, Bloomingt	on IL 61710-0001
Place of Accident, Incident or Transaction: Pennsylvania	
(Use Reverse	Side For Additional Space)
Does this case involve multidistrict litigation possibilities?  RELATED CASE, IF ANY:	Yes□ No.♥
Case Number: Judge	Date Terminated:
Civil cases are deemed related when yes is answered to any of the following questi	
1. Is this case related to property included in an earlier numbered suit pending or w	rithin one year previously terminated action in this court? $\mathbf{Yes} \square  \mathbf{No}  \mathbf{\boxtimes}$
2. Does this case involve the same issue of fact or grow out of the same transaction action in this court?	
•	Yes□ No □
3. Does this case involve the validity or infringement of a patent already in suit or terminated action in this court?	any earlier numbered case pending or within one year previously
	Yes□ No₽
CIVIL: (Place V in ONE CATEGORY ONLY)	
A. Federal Question Cases:	
1. Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and All Other Contracts	B. Diversity Jurisdiction Cases:
2. D FELA	1. Insurance Contract and Other Contracts
3.   Jones Act-Personal Injury	2. Airplane Personal Injury
4. Antitrust	3. Assault, Defamation
5. Patent	4. Marine Personal Injury
6. Labor-Management Relations	5. Motor Vehicle Personal Injury
7. 🗆 Civil Rights	6. Other Personal Injury (Please specify)
3.   Habeas Corpus	7. Products Liability
9. Securities Act(s) Cases	8. Products Liability — Asbestos
10. Social Security Review Cases	9.   All other Diversity Cases
11. All other Federal Question Cases (Please specify)	(Please specify)
ARBITRATION C	ERTIFICATION
Teresa Ficken Sachs, Esquire (Check appropri	ale Calegory)
Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 53.2, Section 3(c)(2), that to the best of my k exceed the sum of \$150,000.00 exclusive of interest and costs;	nowledge and belief, the damages recoverable in this civil action case
Relief other than monetary damages is sought.	
DATE: 5-28-02 Welsen	41136
Attorney-at-Law	

NOTE: A trial de novo will be a trial by jury only if there has been compliance with F.R.C.P. 38.

# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

### CASE MANAGEMENT TRACK DESIGNATION FORM

Robin Frankenfield, Admx. of the	•	CIVIL ACTION
Estate of Michael A. DeAngelis,	•	•
Deceased v.	1 4	TO COMMON AND
State Farm Mutual Automobile	:	
Insurance Company	:	NO.

In accordance with the Civil Justice Expense and Delay Reduction Plan of this court, counsel for plaintiff shall complete a case Management Track Designation Form in all civil cases at the time of filing the complaint and serve a copy on all defendants. (See § 1:03 of the plan set forth on the reverse side of this form.) In the event that a defendant does not agree with the plaintiff regarding said designation, that defendant shall, with its first appearance, submit to the clerk of court and serve on the plaintiff and all other parties, a case management track designation form specifying the track to which that defendant believes the case should be assigned.

## SELECT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING CASE MANAGEMENT TRACKS:

(a)	Habeas Corpus - Cases brought under 28 U.S.C. \$2241 through \$2255.	(	)
(b)	Social Security - Cases requesting review of a decision of the Secretary of Health and Human Services denying plaintiff Social Security Benefits.	(	)
(c)	Arbitration Cases required to be designated for arbitration under Local Civil Rule 53.2.	. (	)
(d)	Asbestos – Cases involving claims for personal injury or property damage from exposure to asbestos.	(	.)
(e)	Special Management Cases that do not fall into tracks (a) through (d) that are commonly referred to as complex and that need special or intense management by the court. (See reverse side of this form for a detailed explanation of special management cases.)		, ,
(f)	Standard Management Cases that do not fall into any one of the other tracks.	(2	۲)
: .	Tecahiba San	l	5

Date

Teresa Ficken Sachs, Esquire (41136)

Attorney-at-law

# IN THE UNITED STATES COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

ROBIN FRANKENFIELD, Admx. of the Estate of MICHAEL A. DeANGELIS Deceased

CIVIL ACTION

٧.

STATE FARM MUTUAL AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE COMPANY

NO. 02-CV-3246

NOTICE OF REMOVAL

A TRUE COPY CERTIFIED FROM THE RECORD

DATED: \_\_

TO THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA ATTEST:

BEPUTY CLERK, UNITED STATES DISTRICT COL

The above-named defendant in this matter, "State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company," (hereinafter referred to in this Notice of Removal as "State Farm") hereby files the within Notice of Removal of this case from the Court of Common Pleas of Northampton County, Pennsylvania, in which it is now pending, to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. This Notice is filed pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1441, et seq., and in support thereof, defendant states the following:

1. This action was commenced in the Court of Common Pleas of Northampton County, Pennsylvania, by Writ(s) of Summons and is docketed in the state court at No. C0048CV2002632. See Exhibit "A" (See Writs of Summons dated January 31, 2002 and filed February 1, 2002 and Plaintiff's Civil Complaint dated and filed May 2, 2002).

- 2. Plaintiff, Robin Frankenfield, is a citizen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. See Exhibit "A", Plaintiff's Complaint at paragraph 1.
- 3. Defendant State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company is a corporation that is duly incorporated, organized and existing under the laws of Illinois with its principal place of business located in Bloomington, Illinois. State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company is a citizen of the State of Illinois.
- 4. The value of the matter in controversy exceeds the amount of \$75,000, exclusive of interest and costs. <u>See</u> Complaint, Exhibit "A".

The other defendants were also completely diverse from plaintiff. "State Farm Fire & Casualty Co." is a citizen of Illinois: it is incorporated in Illinois and has its principal place of business located in Bloomington, Illinois. "State Farm Indemnity Co." is a citizen of New Jersey and Illinois: it is incorporated in Illinois and has its principal place of business in Wayne, New Jersey. "State Farm Insurance Company" is not a legally recognized business entity at all, but merely a service mark used by State Farm. Thus, none of the three dismissed "defendants" is (or was) a citizen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the Complaint filed May 2, 2002 is properly removable both before and after amendment of the caption.

¹ The Plaintiff initially filed Writs of Summons naming <u>four</u> alleged defendant entities: (1) "State Farm Mutual Insurance Co.", (2) "State Farm Fire & Casualty Co.", (3) "State Farm Indemnity Co."; and (4) "State Farm Insurance Co." After reviewing Plaintiff's Complaint (filed upon Rule), it appeared that the correct identity of the company issuing the insurance policy at issue is "State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company" (incorrectly designated in Plaintiff's Complaint as "State Farm Mutual Insurance Company"). Accordingly, Plaintiff's counsel <u>voluntarily</u> agreed to dismiss three of the four incorrectly named defendants and to amend Plaintiff's Complaint / Caption to correct the designation "State Farm Mutual Insurance Co." (which is not a recognized legal entity) to "State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company" (See Exhibit "A"). State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company is incorporated and has its principal place of business in Illinois and thus is a citizen of Illinois. Plaintiff's Writs did not specify any address for the Plaintiff, but the Complaint alleges that Plaintiff is a citizen of Pennsylvania. Thus, there is complete diversity between plaintiff and defendant.

- 5. The instant lawsuit is removable from State Court to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1332(a)(1) and §1441(a).
- 6. Copies of all process, pleadings, and orders served upon or otherwise received by petitioner are attached as Exhibit "A".
- 7. A copy of the Plaintiff's Complaint was mailed to State Farm's undersigned attorneys on May 2, 2002 and received May 6, 2002.
- 8. This Notice of Removal is timely, as it is being filed less than thirty (30) days, as that period is computed under the Federal Rules, after the filing and service of a copy of the complaint, the initial state court pleading setting forth a basis for federal court jurisdiction. Murphy Bros., Inc. v. Michetti Pipe Stringing, Inc., 526 U.S. 344 (1999); Foster v. The Mutual Fire, Marine & Inland Ins. Co., 986 F. 2d 48 (3d Cir. 1993).

WHEREFORE, Defendant respectfully requests that this action be removed from the Court of Common Pleas of Northampton County, Pennsylvania, to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

## **BRITT, HANKINS, SCHAIBLE & MOUGHAN**

Page 7 of 32

BY:

Teresa Ficken Sachs Attorneys for Defendant Atty. I. D. NO.: 41136 Christopher J. Urban Attorney I.D. No. 81981

Suite 515 Two Penn Center Plaza 15th Street & JFK Boulevard Philadelphia, PA 19102 (215) 569-6949

Attorneys for Defendant, State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company

# IN THE UNITED STATES COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

ROBIN FRANKENFIELD, Admx. of

the Estate of MICHAEL A. DeANGELIS

STATE FARM MUTUAL AUTOMOBILE

Deceased

٧.

**INSURANCE COMPANY** 

CIVIL ACTION

NO.

**MEMORANDUM OF LAW** 

Title 28, U.S.C. § 1441 provides, in part, that,

(a) Any civil action brought in the State Court of which the District Courts of the United States have original jurisdiction, may be removed by the defendant or defendants to the District Court of the United States for the district and the division embracing the place where such action is pending.

In this case, Plaintiff filed an action against the above-named Defendant in the Northampton County Court of Common Pleas, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The Complaint states that Plaintiff is a citizen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company ("State Farm") is a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Illinois with its principal places of business located in Bloomington, Illinois. State Farm is a citizen of the State of Illinois. The amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000. See Exhibit A.

Under these circumstances, this Court has original jurisdiction over the instant controversy based upon complete diversity of citizenship between the parties, Plaintiff and Defendant, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a)(1).

Therefore, Defendant respectfully requests that the state court action be removed to the federal forum.

## **BRITT, HANKINS, SCHAIBLE & MOUGHAN**

BY: Leczarideu
Teresa Ficken Sachs

Attorneys for Defendant Atty. I. D. NO.: 41136

Christopher J. Urban

Attorney I.D. No. 81981

Suite 515 Two Penn Center Plaza 15th Street & JFK Boulevard Philadelphia, PA 19102

(215) 569-6949

Attorneys for Defendant, State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company

### IN THE UNITES STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

ROBIN FRANKENFIELD, Admx. of

the Estate of MICHAEL A. DeANGELIS

Deceased

CIVIL ACTION

٧.

STATE FARM MUTUAL AUTOMOBILE

INSURANCE COMPANY

NO:

The undersigned certifies that a copy of the foregoing Defendant's Notice of Removal, Memorandum of Law and supporting Affidavit / Exhibits, were forwarded this day, the <u>38</u><sup>th</sup> of <u>May</u>, 2002, to the Court and the below listed counsel by Overnight Mail and First Class Regular U.S. Mail:

> Richard J. Orloski, Esquire Orloski, Hinga, Pandaleon & Orloski 111 N. Cedar Crest Boulevard Allentown, PA 18104-4602

> > Teresa Ficken Sachs, Esquire

Dated: 5-28.00

# **EXHIBIT A**

## "EXHIBIT A"

- 1. Plaintiff's Writs of Summons (4)
- 2. Entry of Appearance, Teresa Ficken Sachs for Defendants
- 3. Praecipe for Rule to File Complaint and Rule to File Complaint
- 4. Plaintiff's Civil Complaint
- 5. Stipulation for Partial Dismissal and to Amend Caption

# **EXHIBIT A-1**

#### INCASE 2002-COPO3246-BEEAS DORNOR PHAMPTORILE OU 05/28/2002 YLV RAGE 14 of 32 CIVIL DIVISION

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTON

ROBIN FRANKENFIELD, ADMINISTRATRIX OF THE ESTATE OF MICHAEL A. DE ANGELIS, DECEASED

Plaintiff(s)

No.

C-0048-CV-2002-000632

STATE FARM MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY. 248 BRODHEAD ROAD, BETHLEHEM, PA 18017 STATE FARM FIRE & CASUALTY COMPANY 248 BRODHEAD ROAD, BETHLEHEM, PA 18017 STATE FARM INDEMNITY COMPANY 248 BRODHEAD ROAD, BETHLEHEM, PA 18017 STATE FARM INSURANCE COMPANIES 248 BRODHEAD ROAD, BETHLEHEM, PA 18017 Defendant(s)

> CIVIL ACTION JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

#### WRIT OF SUMMONS

STATE FARM MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY, STATE FARM FIRE & CASUALTY COMPANY, STATE TO: FARM INDEMNITY COMPANY AND STATE FARM INSURANCE COMPANIES

You are notified that

ROBIN FRANKENFIELD, ADMINISTRATRIX OF THE ESTATE OF MICHAEL A. DE ANGELIS. DECEASED

(Name(s) of Plaintiff(s)

has (have) commenced an action against you.

30

Date JANUARY 31, 2002

Holly Ruggiero Prothonotary

Deputy

Altorney Name: RICHARD J. ORLOSKI, ESQ Address: 111 N. CEDAR CREST BLVD

ALLENTOWN, PA 18104-4602

Telephone No. 610-433-2363

Attorney for Plaintiff(s)

HOLLY RUGGIERO CLERK OF COURT CIVILIPROTHONOTARY

A TRUE COPY ATTEST

# Wase 2:002 CVO B 2246 MB P SLEAD OF WORLD AMPT OF 10 DO 1/2 BY 2 R 1 DO 1 S OF 32

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTON

ROBIN FRANKENFIELD, ADMINISTRATRIX OF THE ESTATE OF MICHAEL A. DE ANGELIS, DECEASED

Plaintiff(s)

C-0048-CV-2002-000632

STATE FARM MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY. 248 BRODHEAD ROAD, BETHLEHEM, PA 18017 STATE FARM FIRE & CASUALTY COMPANY 248 BRODHEAD ROAD, BETHLEHEM, PA 18017 STATE FARM INDEMNITY COMPANY 248 BRODHEAD ROAD, BETHLEHEM, PA 18017 STATE FARM INSURANCE COMPANIES 248 BRODHEAD ROAD, BETHLEHEM, PA 18017

Defendant(s)

CIVIL ACTION JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

#### WRIT OF SUMMONS

TO: STATE FARM MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY, STATE FARM FIRE & CASUALTY COMPANY, STATE FARM INDEMNITY COMPANY AND STATE FARM INSURANCE COMPANIES

You are notified that

ROBIN.FRANKENFIELD, ADMINISTRATRIX OF THE ESTATE OF MICHAEL A. DE ANGELIS, DECEASED

(Name(s) of Plaintiff(s)

has (have) commenced an action against you.

33

Date JANUARY 31, 2002

Holly Ruggiero Prothonotary

TIRELEYCOPY ATTLEST

HOLLY RUGGIERO

Attorney Name: RICHARD J. ORLOSKI, ESQ Address: 111 N. CEDAR CREST BLVD

ALLENTOWN, PA 18104-4602

Telephone No. 610-433-2363

Attorney for Plaintiff(s)

CLERK OF COURT CIVILIPROTHONOTARY

# INCARECE URTOUF UR 2460 R 中 SEAS DOPRING PAIN MPTO FIBERUR 25/28年2022/LV ARAGE 16 of 32 CIVIL DIVISION

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTON

ROBIN FRANKENFIELD,	ADMINISTRATRIX	OF THE	ESTATE	OF
MICHAEL A DE ANGELIS	S DECEASED			

Plaintiff(s)

VS

No.

C-0048-CV-2002-000632

STATE FARM MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY,
248 BRODHEAD ROAD, BETHLEHEM, PA 18017
STATE FARM FIRE & CASUALTY COMPANY
248 BRODHEAD ROAD, BETHLEHEM, PA 18017
STATE FARM INDEMNITY COMPANY
248 BRODHEAD ROAD, BETHLEHEM, PA 18017
STATE FARM INSURANCE COMPANIES
248 BRODHEAD ROAD, BETHLEHEM, PA 18017
Defendant(s)

CIVIL ACTION JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

#### WRIT OF SUMMONS

TO: STATE FARM MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY, STATE FARM FIRE & CASUALTY COMPANY, STATE FARM INDEMNITY COMPANY AND STATE FARM INSURANCE COMPANIES

You are notified that

ROBIN FRANKENFIELD, ADMINISTRATRIX OF THE ESTATE OF MICHAEL A. DE ANGELIS,

DECEASED

(Name(s) of Plaintiff(s)

has (have) commenced an action against you.

Date JANUARY 31, 2002

Holly Ruggiero
Prothonotary

1

35

Attorney Name: RICHARD J. ORLOSKI, ESQ Address: 111 N. CEDAR CREST BLVD ALLENTOWN, PA 18104-4602

610-433-2363

Attorney for Plaintiff(s)

Telephone No.

HOLLY RUGGIERO CLERK OF COURT

CIVILIPROTHONOTARY

Holly Luggieso

#### I Case 2:02-cv-03246/BRB EADOENBRATA INPTORIGO NO 12:0024 V PAGE 17 of 32 CIVIL DIVISION

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTON

ROBIN FRANKENFIELD, ADMINISTRATRIX OF THE ESTATE OF MICHAEL A. DE ANGELIS, DECEASED

Plaintiff(s)

C-0048-CV-2002-000632

STATE FARM MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY. 248 BRODHEAD ROAD, BETHLEHEM, PA 18017 STATE FARM FIRE & CASUALTY COMPANY 248 BRODHEAD ROAD, BETHLEHEM, PA 18017 STATE FARM INDEMNITY COMPANY 248 BRODHEAD ROAD, BETHLEHEM, PA 18017 STATE FARM INSURANCE COMPANIES 248 BRODHEAD ROAD, BETHLEHEM, PA 18017 Defendant(s)

> CIVIL ACTION JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

#### WRIT OF SUMMONS

TO: STATE FARM MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY, STATE FARM FIRE & CASUALTY COMPANY, STATE FARM INDEMNITY COMPANY AND STATE FARM INSURANCE COMPANIES

You are notified that

ROBIN FRANKENFIELD, ADMINISTRATRIX OF THE ESTATE OF MICHAEL A. DE ANGELIS. DECEASED

(Name(s) of Plaintiff(s)

has (have) commenced an action against you.

JANUARY 31, 2002

Holly Ruggiero

37

Prothonotary

Address:

Attorney Name: RICHARD J. ORLOSKI, ESQ 111 N. CEDAR CREST BLVD

ALLENTOWN, PA 18104-4602

Telephone No. 610-433-2363

Attorney for Plaintiff(s)

A TRUE COPY ATTEST HOLLY RUGGIERO

Deputy

CLERK OF COURT

CIVILIPROTHONOTARY

# **EXHIBIT A-2**



BRITT, HANKINS, SCHAIBLE & MOUGHAN

By: Teresa Ficken Sachs Atty. I.D. No.: 41136

Suite 515, Two Penn Center Plaza

Philadelphia, PA 19102

(215) 569-6900

Attorneys for: Defendant

ROBIN FRANKENFIELD, Admx. of

the Estate of MICHAEL A. DeANGELIS:

Deceased

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, PA.

v.

STATE FARM MUTUAL INS. CO.,

STATE FARM FIRE & CASUALTY CO:

STATE FARM INDEMNITY CO.

STATE FARM INSURANCE CO.

NO.: C-0048-CV-2002-0006

ENTRY OF APPEARANCE

TO THE PROTHONOTARY:

Kindly enter our appearance on behalf of all defendants in the above captioned matter.

BRITT, HANKINS, SCHAIBLE & MOUGHAN

BY:

Teresa Ficken Sachs

Attorneys for Defendants

Dated: 4-9-02

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

**EXHIBIT A-3** 



BRITT, HANKINS, SCHAIBLE & MOUGHAN

By: Teresa Ficken Sachs Atty. I.D. No.: 41136

Suite 515, Two Penn Center Plaza

Philadelphia, PA 19102

(215) 569-6900

Attorneys for: Defendant

ROBIN FRANKENFIELD, Admx. of

the Estate of MICHAEL A. DeANGELIS:

Deceased

V.

STATE FARM MUTUAL INS. CO.,

STATE FARM FIRE & CASUALTY CO:

STATE FARM INDEMNITY CO.

STATE FARM INSURANCE CO.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, PA

NATURAL SOLUTION OF THE PARTY AND THE PARTY OF THE PARTY

NO.: C-0048-CV-2002-000632

## PRAECIPE FOR RULE TO FILE COMPLAINT

TO THE PROTHONOTARY:

Kindly enter a Rule upon plaintiff to file a Complaint within twenty (20) days hereof or suffer the entry of a judgment of Non Pros.

BRITT, HANKINS, SCHAIBLE & MOUGHAN

Dated: 4-9-01

BY:

Teresa Ficken Sachs

Attorneys for Defendants

RULE TO FILE COMPLAINT

AND NOW, this /

day of Du

2002, a Rule is hereby GRANTED upon

Plaintiff to file a Complaint within twenty (20) days after service hereof or suffer the entry

of a Judgment of Non Pros.

Dated: 4-//-02

Holly Kuggieso

**EXHIBIT A-4** 



# IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA CIVIL DIVISION - LAW

Robin Frankenfield, Administratrix of the: Estate of Michael A. DeAngelis, deceased,: Plaintiff,

vs. : No. C0048UV2002632

State Farm Mutual Insurance Co., State Farm Fire & Casualty Co., State:

Farm Indemnity Co., State Farm

Insurance Co., : JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

Defendants.

#### NOTICE

YOU HAVE BEEN SUED IN COURT. IF YOU WISH TO DEFEND AGAINST THE CLAIMS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING PAGES, YOU MUST TAKE ACTION WITHIN TWENTY (20) DAYS AFTER THIS COMPLAINT AND NOTICE IS SERVED, BY ENTERING A WRITTEN APPEARANCE PERSONALLY OR BY ATTORNEY AND FILING IN WRITING WITH THE COURT YOUR DEFENSES OR OBJECTIONS TO THE CLAIMS SET FORTH AGAINST YOU. YOU ARE WARNED THAT IF YOU FAIL TO DO SO, THE CASE MAY PROCEED WITHOUT YOU, AND A JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU BY THE COURT WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE FOR ANY MONEY CLAIMED IN THE DOCUMENT OR FOR ANY OTHER CLAIM OR RELIEF REQUESTED BY THE PLAINTIFF. YOU MAY LOSE MONEY OR PROPERTY OR OTHER RIGHTS IMPORTANT TO YOU.

YOU SHOULD TAKE THIS PAPER TO YOUR LAWYER AT ONCE. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A LAWYER OR CANNOT AFFORD ONE, GO TO OR TELEPHONE THE OFFICE SET FORTH BELOW TO FIND OUT WHERE YOU CAN GET LEGAL HELP.

LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE 155 S. NINTH STREET EASTON, PA 18042 (610) 258-6333

Page 24 of 32

# IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA CIVIL DIVISION - LAW

Robin Frankenfield, Administratrix of the: Estate of Michael A. DeAngelis, deceased,: Plaintiff.:

vs. : No. C0048CV2002632

State Farm Mutual Insurance Co., State Farm Fire & Casualty Co., State Farm Indemnity Co., State Farm

Insurance Co., : JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

Defendants.

## DECLARATORY JUDGMENT COMPLAINT

- 1. Plaintiff, Robin Frankenfield, is an adult individual residing at 140 N. 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Allentown, Pennsylvania 18102.
- 2. Defendant, State Farm Mutual Insurance Co., is a business entity doing business in Pennsylvania with offices at 248 Brodhead Road, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania 18017.
- 3. Defendant, State Farm Fire and Casualty Co., is a business entity doing business in Pennsylvania with offices at 248 Brodhead Road, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania 18017.
- 4. Defendant, State Farm Indemnity Co., is a business entity doing business in Pennsylvania with offices at 248 Brodhead Road, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania 18017.
- 5. Defendant, State Farm Insurance Co., is a business entity doing business in Pennsylvania with offices at 248 Brodhead Road, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania 18017.
- 6. Michael DeAngelis is a deceased person whose estate is being administered by Plaintiff, Robin Frankenfield.

#### FACTS

- 7. Michael DeAngelis was killed in a car accident on June 17, 1989.
- 8. On the date of the accident, Michael DeAngelis had available to him uninsured/underinsured motorist coverage under a policy issued by Defendants.
  - 9. The policy is in the exclusive possession of the Defendants.
- 10. Upon information and belief, the policy provides that all issues regarding a claim for uninsured/underinsured motorist coverage are to be settled at an arbitration proceeding.
- 11. Plaintiff, Robin Frankenfield, Administratrix of the Estate of Michael DeAngelis, has made a claim for benefits under the UM/UIM policy issued by Defendants, and appointed an arbitrator.
- 12. Plaintiff has reduced a claim against the tortfeasor by judgment entered on February 2, 1998.
  - 13. This action was commenced by Writ of Summons filed January 31, 2002.

#### **COUNT ONE: ORDER FOR ARBITRATION**

- 14. The insurance policy in effect between the parties requires an arbitration proceeding to resolve any and all disputes between them concerning uninsured/underinsured motorist benefits.
  - 15. Despite demand by Plaintiff, Defendants have refused to arbitrate this matter.
- 16. Defendants' failure to arbitrate this dispute is a breach of the insurance contract between the parties.
- 17. Defendants have admitted that Michael DeAngelis was an insured with \$150,000.00 of uninsured/underinsured motorist coverage available to him.

- 18. Defendants' failure to arbitrate this claim, despite demand, is contrary to the policy, and to the extensive appellate case law in this Commonwealth.
- 19. Plaintiff is entitled to a declaratory judgment ordering arbitration of Plaintiff's uninsured/underinsured motorist claim.
- 20. Plaintiff is entitled to recover attorney's fees and costs because she should not have been forced to resort to an action in Common Pleas court to get an arbitration proceeding.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff asks that a declaratory judgment be entered in its favor and against Defendants, ORDERING Defendants to proceed to arbitration, and APPOINTING an arbitrator on Defendants' behalf to confer with Plaintiff's arbitrator for the selection of a neutral arbitrator, in addition to a monetary judgment of attorneys fees and costs for prosecuting this action.

#### **COUNT TWO: BAD FAITH**

- 21. Paragraphs 1 through 20 inclusive are hereby incorporated as if fully set forth at length.
- 22. Clear and unambiguous policy language dictates that all disputes concerning uninsured/underinsured motorist claims must be submitted to arbitration.
  - 23. Defendants have refused to proceed with arbitration.
- 24. There is no reasonable basis for Defendants to refuse to arbitrate Plaintiff's uninsured/underinsured motorist claim.
- 25. As a matter of law in this Commonwealth, an insurer commits bad faith when it refuses to proceed to arbitration based on the insurer's unilateral determination that the claim has no merit. See Anderson vs. Nationwide Insurance Co., 187 F. Supp. 447, 459 (W.D. Pa. 2002).

- 26. Plaintiff is entitled to punitive damages due to Defendants' bad faith refusal to proceed to arbitration.
- 27. Plaintiff is entitled to attorney's fees and costs for prosecuting this action due to Defendants' bad faith refusal to proceed to arbitration.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff asks that judgment be entered in her favor and against Defendants in an amount in excess of Fifty Thousand (\$50,000.00) Dollars, in addition to interest, costs of suit, and reasonable attorney's fees.

Respectfully submitted,

ORLOSKI, HINGA, PANDALEON & ORLOSKI

Richard L. Orloski

Attorney for Plaintiff
111 N. Cedar Crest Blvd.

Allentown, PA 18104-4602

610-433-2363

Attorney ID No. 80037

#### **VERIFICATION**

I, Richard L. Orloski, verify that the statements set forth in the attached document are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief. I understand that false statements made herein are made subjects to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S. §4904 relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

Date: 5-2-02

Richard L. Orloski

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Richard L. Orloski, HEREBY CERTIFY that I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing document upon the following person(s) by depositing same in the United States Mail, regular, first-class mail, postage prepaid, addressed as follows:

Teresa Ficken Sachs
Britt Hankins
Two Penn Center Plaza
Suite 515
1500 JFK Blvd.
Philadelphia, PA 19102-1888

Date: May \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2002

ORLOSKI, HINGA, PANDALEON & ORLOSKI

Richard L. Orloski

Attorney for Plaintiff

Attorney I.D. No. 80037

111 North Cedar Crest Blvd.

Allentown, PA 18104

(610) 433-2363

**EXHIBIT A-5** 

#### **BRITT, HANKINS, SCHAIBLE & MOUGHAN**

By: Teresa Ficken Sachs Atty. I.D. No.: 41136

Suite 515, Two Penn Center Plaza

Philadelphia, PA 19102

(215) 569-6900

Attorneys for: Defendant

ROBIN FRANKENFIELD, Admx. of the Estate of MICHAEL A. DeANGELIS

the Estate of MICHAEL A. DeANGELIS
Deceased

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STATE FARM MUTUAL INS. CO., STATE FARM FIRE & CASUALTY CO STATE FARM INDEMNITY CO. STATE FARM INSURANCE CO. COURT OF COMMON PLEAS NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, PA.

NO.: C-0048-CV-2002-000632

### STIPULATION FOR PARTIAL DISMISSAL AND TO AMEND CAPTION

WHEREAS, Plaintiff, Robin Frankenfield, Administratrix of the Estate of Michael A. DeAngelis, Deceased (hereinafter "Administratrix") commenced this action in the Court of Common Pleas of Northampton County, Pennsylvania, by filing Writs of Summons at No. C0048CV2002632 against the above-listed defendants.

WHEREAS, upon Rule requested by undersigned counsel, the Administratrix filed a Civil Complaint against the above-listed defendants on May 2, 2002.

WHEREAS, upon review of the Civil Complaint filed by the Adminstratrix, this action concerns the alleged entitlement of Robin Frankenfield, as Adminstratrix of the Estate of Michael A. DeAngelis, to underinsured motorist coverage under a policy of motor vehicle insurance allegedly issued by one of the above-listed defendants.

WHEREAS, "State Farm Insurance Company" is merely a service mark and at all times relevant hereto has never been a duly organized and existing legal entity.

WHEREAS, "State Farm Indemnity Co." and "State Farm Fire & Casualty Co." are duly organized and existing legal entities, but neither of these entities issued any policy of motor vehicle insurance which could possibly be applicable in this case.

WHEREAS, "State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company" (incorrectly designated in Plaintiff's Complaint as "State Farm Mutual Insurance Co.") is a legal entity duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Illinois and which has issued policies of motor vehicle insurance within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Document 1

WHEREFORE, the parties, by their undersigned counsel, do hereby Stipulate and Agree as follows:

- Plaintiff's alleged claims against: (1) "State Farm Insurance Co."; Α. (2) "State Farm Fire & Casualty Co."; and (3) "State Farm Indemnity Co." are hereby discontinued and dismissed with prejudice pursuant to Pa. R.C.P. 229.
- The caption and all other references contained in Plaintiff's В. Complaint naming or otherwise identifying "State Farm Mutual Insurance Co." are hereby amended to read "State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company" as the proper and legal name of said defendant pursuant to Pa. R.C.P. 1033.

BRITT, HANKINS, SCHAIBLE & MOUGHAN

Teresa Ficken Sachs Attorneys for Defendant Attorney I.D. No. 41136 Christopher J. Urban Attorney I.D. No. 81981

Suite 515 Two Penn Center Plaza 15th Street & JFK Boulevard Philadelphia, PA 19102 (215) 569-6949

ORLOSKI, HING BY:

> Richard J. Orloski/Esquire Attorney I.D. No. 9857 Richard L. Orloski, Esquire Attorney I.D. No. 80037

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